



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CRYSTAL CITY MAN CHARGED IN PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CASE**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that in Del Rio, Texas, a federal grand jury returned an indictment against Jesse Anthony Heredia for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm, possession with intent to distribute cocaine and possession of a firearm in furtherance of a drug trafficking crime

On March 29, 2005, authorities executed an arrest warrant at Heredia's residence. Subsequently, authorities recovered a .22 caliber revolver, .9mm assault pistol, over 1,000 rounds of .9mm ammunition and less than 500 grams of cocaine from inside the residence. Heredia's criminal history reflects a conviction on January 4, 2001 in Zavala County, Texas, for possession of a controlled substance.

Heredia remains in custody. Upon conviction, he faces up to 10 years imprisonment on the felon in possession of a firearm charge; up to 20 years imprisonment on the drug possession charge; and, between five years and life in federal prison on the possession of a firearm during a drug trafficking crime charge.

This case was investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety Narcotics Unit, Zavala County Sheriff's Department, San Antonio Police Department and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement together with the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Assistant United States Attorney Robert J. Brady, Jr., is prosecuting this case on behalf of the government.

The prosecution of this case is another example of how the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas is carrying out the Department of Justice's gun crime initiative - Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide federal initiative designed to reduce gun violence in our communities. PSN promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement to target criminals in possession of guns. Federal law insures that when an armed criminal is arrested, that individual will face swift criminal prosecution and be exiled from the community through the use of stiff mandatory prison sentences.

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